

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 335

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A RESOLUTION recognizing longtime *Columbia Daily Herald* sports editor Marion Wilhoite.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause to recognize those intrepid citizens who stand as inspirational figures within their communities; and

WHEREAS, Marion Wilhoite, sports editor for the *Columbia Daily Herald*, is one such individual, and his contributions to his community and to American Legion baseball are worthy of recognition; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilhoite, who is known far and wide as “The Icon,” was named the sports editor at the *Daily Herald* on June 9, 1962, and, since that day, has exhibited the highest levels of dedication and excellence in his coverage of the local sports scene; and

WHEREAS, his involvement with sport in general and baseball in particular began at an early age. While a student at Whitthorne Junior High, Marion Wilhoite was chosen as the batboy for the American Legion Post 19 baseball team and thus began a long and storied association with the team; and

WHEREAS, during his high school years, Mr. Wilhoite was the team’s official scorer and accompanied the team on its road trips and he covered the team when he became a sports reporter for the local paper; and

WHEREAS, he also began covering the sports at Columbia Military Academy and Columbia Central High School in 1958 while a junior at Central High; and

WHEREAS, not only has he reported on local sports for a number of decades, Marion Wilhoite has contributed his considerable talents to the sporting world in a number of other ways. Until 1998, he volunteered his time and energies as a coach, umpire, and as an Amateur Softball Association director; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wilhoite coached the 1984 National ISA Class AAA championship-winning men's slow-pitch softball team and helmed the Columbia State Community College softball team between 1983 and 1985, leading the team to an NJCAA Region VII runner-up finish; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Marion Wilhoite was recognized as the State Prep Sports Writer of the Year in 1984 by the Lawrenceburg Quarterback Club, was tabbed for recognition by the TSSAA for his contributions to high school sports, was inducted into the Region 6-AAA Basketball Hall of Fame, and is a charter member of the City of Columbia Youth Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, for more than half of a century, Mr. Wilhoite has been a voice of the Middle Tennessee sports world, and it is wholly fitting that he be formally recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and applaud Marion Wilhoite for his numerous invaluable contributions to the sporting community, extending our best wishes for his continued success and happiness in the future

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.